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BELGIUM.

*Report from Antwerp.*ANTWERP, BELGIUM, *February 19, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the health of this port continues good. Considering that the temperature for the past month and one-half has ranged between a maximum of 11.4° C., and a minimum of 8.3° C., with an absolute humidity averaging over 95 per cent during the same time, it is remarkable that the death rate has not exceeded 18 per thousand annually.

The number of emigrants leaving this port for the United States is the largest yet recorded for this season of the year. The steamship *Friesland* had every berth available for steerage passengers occupied when she sailed on the 17th instant and about 50 were detained for the next steamer. One passenger detained one week before because of suspected malignant disease of the jaw, was allowed to sail. The others were in apparent good health. Their baggage was not inspected and was put aboard the boat without any stamp.

Respectfully,

E. K. SPRAGUE,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

BRAZIL.

*Report from Rio de Janeiro—Plague, yellow fever, and hydrophobia.**Plague.*RIO DE JANEIRO, *January 29, 1900.*

SIR: No new case of plague has occurred at Rio de Janeiro. As since the appearance of those 2 cases twenty days have passed, the quarantine against Rio de Janeiro was raised on the 27th, as I wired to you on the 28th.

Santos, since November 28 no case of plague has been observed. Of the 2 patients who remained in the isolation hospital, as I stated in my report, 1 has been discharged. The last patient is the pharmacist, who is convalescent.

The quarantine against Santos would also have been raised, were it not the fact that there was unrestrained intercourse between Sao Paulo and Santos, and on this account sufficient precautions could not be taken.

At Sao Paulo there occurred a new case of plague on January 23. Of the former patients some few have already been discharged and all the others are doing very well.

The bacteriologists of Sao Paulo sent preparations of their material for examination to Paris and Berlin. Both by Metschnikoff and Roux, of the Institute Pasteur, and by the German Reichsgesundheitsamtes, the statement of the bacilli of plague has been recognized as correct.

Sanitary report from Rio de Janeiro.

I have the honor to transmit to you the official sanitary report for the week ended January 19: There were 298 deaths from all causes, a decrease of 3, as compared with the foregoing week; 7 deaths from *accessio pernicioso*, a decrease of 1; 6 deaths from yellow fever, a decrease of 1; 29 deaths from smallpox, an increase of 6; 3 deaths from

typhoid fever, an increase of 2; 3 deaths from measles, an increase of 1; no death from plague, 1 before; 2 deaths from beriberi, the same as before, and 49 deaths from tuberculosis, an increase of 6.

The sanitary state at Rio de Janeiro is very satisfactory. Instead of a hot summer season we have relatively cool weather and much rain. As it results from the observation of the figures, related in the weekly reports, yellow fever only exists on a moderate scale. Smallpox continues, however, to a limited extent.

Yellow fever.

From Santos there has been reported that there the number of cases of yellow fever is increasing. A very considerable yellow fever epidemic has been prevailing at Sorocaba, in the State of Sao Paulo, now for several weeks.

Pasteur Institute at Rio de Janeiro.

In the Pasteur Institute against rabies at Rio de Janeiro, of which I have already reported on July 19 (Vol. XIV, p. 1340), there have been treated during the second half-year, 1899, 267 persons, and 419 persons have applied for consultations, 152 persons have been rejected because 139 have been bitten by animals not attacked by hydrophobia, 6 persons did not show any wound, and 7 persons refused to submit to the treatment recommended on account of having been bitten by suspected animals.

Of the persons treated there were 141 adults and 126 children. One hundred and sixty-two patients came from the city of Rio de Janeiro, 22 patients from the State of Rio de Janeiro, 18 from the State of Sao Paulo, 10 from Minas, 8 from Rio Grande do Sul, 10 from Espirito Santo, and 4 from Para. The bites were caused in 226 instances by dogs, in 39 instances by cats, in 1 instance by a cow. Seven persons were bitten by animals, whose existing disease was shown by experiments, 105 were bitten by animals who showed undoubted symptoms, and 155 were bitten by highly suspicious animals.

In the case of 2 persons treatment was suspended because it was discovered that the animals, by which they were bitten, were not suffering from hydrophobia, 24 persons did not await the termination of the treatment. Of the persons treated correctly, none died.

Quarantine against Santos raised.

I had just finished my report, when the United States vice-consul at Santos advised us, that the Federal Government cabled to the sanitary inspector, that the quarantine against Santos had been raised, thereof I gave you immediately telegraphic notice on the 30th.

Respectfully,

W. HAVELBURG, M. D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Reports from Rio de Janeiro and Santos.

Quarantines raised.

RIO DE JANEIRO, *February 1, 1900.*

SIR: I have to complete my report, dated January 29, with the following telegram from Sao Paulo, dated January 31:

The plague patients at the hospital are doing well. To-morrow will be suspended the service of disinfection of baggage and merchandise for the interior. A similar